

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOLLYWOOD SIGN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 9, 2013

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 90th anniversary of a true California icon—the Hollywood Sign in the hills of Hollywood, California.

First erected in 1923, the Hollywood Sign originally read “Hollywoodland” to advertise the new housing developments that surrounded the Hollywood Hills. In 1949, the sign was changed to simply “Hollywood,” and since then has become a symbol of the vibrant Hollywood movie industry, a beacon attracting talent and tourists to come to Los Angeles from all over the world, and a national treasure.

In 1973, the Hollywood sign was declared a historical and cultural monument of Los Angeles. Thus, the Hollywood Sign Trust was established to protect the icon. Throughout the years, the Hollywood Sign Trust has become an avid supporter of cultural events in and around Hollywood. The Trust’s current mission is to repair, maintain, refurbish, and provide improvements to the Hollywood Sign.

Over the years, the Hollywood Sign has attracted not only those who dream of a career in film and television, but also visitors from every corner of the world. As a symbol of hope, adventure and a bit of glamour, the Hollywood Sign stretches vibrantly across Mount Lee, visible throughout Los Angeles.

I am proud to recognize the Hollywood Sign upon its 90th Anniversary, and I ask all Members to join me today in honoring this historic monument.

RECOGNIZING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. PATRICK’S CHURCH

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 9, 2013

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 175th anniversary of St. Patrick’s Church, the oldest Roman Catholic Church in the Diocese of Joliet, Illinois.

St. Patrick’s Church dates back to 1838 with the arrival of Reverend John Francis Plunkett, an Irish immigrant who was assigned to provide spiritual needs to the construction workers of the Illinois & Michigan Canal project. As a result of the canal project, many immigrant families migrated to the area and as the community grew, St. Patrick’s Church was born.

Throughout the next 175 years and seventeen pastors, St. Patrick’s Church thrived and

experienced many changes. For the first 81 years of its existence, it was located on Broadway Street, where the current Victory Center now stands. In 1919, it moved to its current location on West Marion Street.

Today, the dedicated parishioners of St. Patrick’s Church continue to extend their commitment to service for their community and beyond. Whether it be from the \$25,000 in aid they were able to distribute to unfortunate families who sought help with bill payments to their impressive Food Pantry program which serves more than 300 families a month, the parishioners of St. Patrick’s Church truly embody the spirit of selfless service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing St. Patrick’s Church on the occasion of their 175th anniversary and I wish them many more years of dedicated service to the community.

TRIBUTE TO THE DEMPSEY FAMILY

HON. HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 9, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, the birth of Ezekiel Dempsey in the state of North Carolina in the 1800’s began the Dempsey family lineage which has blessed us with descendants that have helped to shape our nation; and

Whereas, the Dempsey Family has produced many well respected citizens and the patriarchs and matriarchs of the Dempsey Family are pillars of strength that have touched many throughout our nation, family members of the past and present such as Rev. Tom Dempsey, Stephen Dempsey, William Dempsey, James Dempsey and Sarah Dempsey; and

Whereas, in our beloved Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, we are honored to have members of the Dempsey family for they are some of our most beloved citizens in our District; and

Whereas, family is one of the most honored and cherished institutions in the world, we take pride in knowing that families such as the Dempsey family have set aside this time to fellowship with each other, honor one another and to pass along history to each other by meeting at this year’s family reunion in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Dempsey family;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim June 8, 2012, as Dempsey Family Reunion Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, This 8th day of June, 2012.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MAY SONG VANG PAO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 9, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of May Song Vang Pao, who passed away on August 5, 2013 at the age of 62. Mrs. Gen. Vang Pao was constantly filled with optimism and drive despite her nearly eight year battle with cancer. Although faced with increasingly insurmountable odds, Mrs. Gen. Vang Pao continued to battle the disease to help maintain the legacy of her late husband, General Vang Pao.

May Song was born in Laos on February 5, 1951 to Nhia Chou Moua and Yee Lee. Receiving an education was very important to May even though it went against her father’s beliefs and the gender roles at the time. She became a nurse and focused most of her attention on caring for the disabled. May’s decision to receive an education was the beginning of her lifelong message that it is important for both men and women to be educated.

In 1973, she married General Vang Pao, who was the only ethnic Hmong general in the Royal Lao Army. This achievement earned him worldwide recognition. After aiding the United States forces in the Vietnam War, Mr. and Mrs. General Vang Pao as well as many other Hmong refugees resettled in the United States. Eventually settling in California’s Central Valley, Mr. and Mrs. General Vang Pao continued their roles as leaders in the Hmong community.

Mrs. Gen. Vang Pao was instrumental in helping refugees settle into their new American lives. She inspired many young men and women to strive for greatness and brought the Hmong community together under her benevolent leadership. Mrs. Gen. Vang Pao will remain an inspiration to those in both the American and Asian Hmong communities.

After the passing of General Vang Pao in January 2011, Mrs. Gen. Vang Pao remained strong and unified the entire Hmong community. She helped the community recover from the loss of their mentor and hero. In 2012, she founded the General Vang Pao Foundation in Fresno which aims to help and support disadvantaged Hmong families.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the life of May Song Vang Pao. She will always be remembered as an influential member of our very important Hmong community.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.